

Serial No.: 10/023,542
Examiner: Asghar H. Bilgrami

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A router, comprising a processor for routing a packet on a selected one of a plurality of routes, wherein the plurality of routes include a policy-based route determined in accordance with a dynamic routing protocol.
2. (original) The router according to claim 1 wherein the plurality of routes further comprises a destination-based route determined in accordance with a dynamic routing protocol.
3. (original) The router according to claim 1 wherein the policy-based route is modified in accordance with the dynamic routing protocol upon detecting a network state change.
4. (original) A router including a processor for routing a packet on a selected one of a plurality of routes, characterized in that the plurality of routes are determined in accordance with a dynamic routing protocol and in that the route selection is made in accordance with the result of a comparison of a plurality of traffic parameters in the packet with a predetermined traffic profile.
5. (original) The router according to claim 4 wherein the plurality of traffic parameters comprises a source address and a destination address.
6. (original) The router according to claim 5 further comprising a source address look-up table having stored source address and an address of a related Internet service provider and wherein the route selection is made in accordance with the result of a comparison of source address in the packet with stored source address in the source address look-up table.

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7. (original) The router according to claim 6 wherein the source address look-up table comprises a hardware look-up table.
8. (original) The router according to claim 5 further comprising a destination address look-up table having stored destination addresses and wherein the route selection is made in accordance with the result of a comparison of destination address in the packet with the stored destination address in the destination address look-up table.
9. (original) The router according to claim 6 wherein the destination address look-up table comprises a hardware look-up table.
- 10.(currently amended) A method of routing signals in a communication network, comprising the steps of:
utilizing a policy-based route, said step of utilizing a policy based route including the steps of determining a destination in accordance with a source identifier in a received signal; and forwarding said signal to said destination in accordance with a dynamic routing protocol.
11. (original) The method of claim 10 wherein the step of determining a destination in accordance with a source identifier in a received signal comprises determining a destination in accordance with source address of said received signal.
12. (original) The method of claim 10 further comprising storing an ISP for one or more source identifiers, and wherein the destination may be determined in accordance with said stored ISPs.
13. (original) The method of claim 10 wherein the step of forwarding the received signal to said destination in accordance with a dynamic routing protocol comprises forwarding said received signal in accordance with an exterior gateway protocol.

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14. (currently amended) A method of routing signals in a communication network, comprising the steps of:
- utilizing a policy-based route, said step of utilizing a policy based route including the steps of comparing destination address of a received signal to one or more known destination addresses;
- determining a destination for said received signal in accordance with a source identifier in said received signal when the destination address of said received signal does not match any one of said known destination addresses; and
- determining route for said received signal in accordance with a dynamic routing protocol.
15. (original) The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of storing known destination addresses in a destination address look-up table.
16. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein the step of storing known destination addresses in a destination address look-up table comprises storing known destination addresses in a hardware look-up table.
17. (original) The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of storing an ISP for one or more source identifiers in a source address look-up table, and wherein the destination may be determined in accordance with said stored ISPs.
18. (original) The method of claim 17 wherein the step of storing ISPs in a source address look-up table comprises storing ISPs in a hardware look-up table.
19. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein the step of determining route for said received signal in accordance with a dynamic routing protocol comprises determining route for received signal in accordance with an exterior gateway protocol.

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20. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein the step of determining a destination for said received signal in accordance with a source identifier in said received signal comprises determining a destination for said received signal in accordance with source address of said received signal.